

Cadets combine technology, training at Rome

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — Three Air Force ROTC cadets received a unique blend of high technology research and professional military development during a 10-week summer program at the Air Force Research Laboratory Rome Research Site.

Cadets applied their scientific and engineering training to actual Air Force research projects, working closely with laboratory personnel throughout the research core segment of the program. They also received weekly professional development training from company grade officers, gaining insight into the acquisition career field within the Air Force.

"This is the first year that we have specifically identified ROTC cadets and given them a military training period in addition to their traditional summer hire activities," said 1st Lt. Peter Y. Hsieh of the Information Directorate.

Company grade officers served as military mentors to the cadets, supporting their professional development training with lectures, panel discussions and technology demonstrations. The cadets also participated in the scheduled AFM 10-100 training for personnel assigned to the Rome Research Site, including a "Warrior Day" basic skills field exercise during mid-July.

Cadets participating in the program were Stephen Arnott, Seattle Pacific University; Harold Haugland, University of Connecticut; and Malena Stitler, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Arnott worked in the directorate's Advanced Computing Architectures branch implementing a portable user interface for the Joint Battlespace Infosphere. Haugland was assigned to the Multi-Sensor Exploitation Branch, evaluating a new algorithm for signal intelligence and also developing a set of instructions for future users of the algorithm.

Stitler also worked in the Multi-Sensor Exploitation Branch on a variety of projects, ranging from helping to implement a GPS attitude control system to participating in the development of a method to determine the continued airworthiness of the branch's Cessna 402B aircraft. @